

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 128334
ORIGIN INT-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 /026 R

DRAFTED BY INT/PBA/RSTURGILL:RM
APPROVED BY EUR/NE:RLFUNSETH
INT/US/BHELLER
EUR/NE:DWOOLFLEY

-----070469 210533Z /11

P 210310Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 128334

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (JAMES JOSEPH) UK

SUBJECT: VISIT OF INTERIOR UNDER SECRETARY JAMES JOSEPH

1. INTERIOR UNDER SECRETARY JAMES JOSEPH, ACCOMPANIED BY DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY BARBARA HELLER, WILL BE IN UK FROM JUNE 4 THROUGH JUNE 10. HIS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS TO SECOND THAMES/POTOMAC SEMINAR MORNING OF JUNE 5 IN LONDON AND PERHAPS TO DELIVER CLOSING REMARKS JUNE 9. SEMINAR IS SPONSORED BY THAMES WATER AUTHORITY, INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON POTOMAC RIVER BASIN, AND INSTITUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (LONDON).

2. WHILE IN LONDON, UNDER SECRETARY JOSEPH WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON ENERGY SECRETARY BENN AND ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY SHORE. HE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO PAY COURTESY CALL ON AMBASSADOR, WHOM HE KNOWS PERSONALLY. CALL ON BENN WOULD BE RESPONSE TO INVITATION ISSUED BY BENN TO SECRETARY ANDRUS AT CONCLUSION OF THEIR TALK IN APRIL 1977.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 128334

3. DURING PERIOD HE IS IN UK, JOSEPH WOULD LIKE TO VISIT (A) AN UNDERGROUND COAL MINE, (B) A SURFACE COAL MINE, (C) ABERDEEN AND PETERHEAD, AND (D) MILFORD HAVEN. HIS INTERESTS ARE BOTH TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT. HE WOULD

IKE TO COMPARE WAYS OLD AND NEW MINES ARE OPERATED, MEET WITH EZRA DEREK OF UK COAL BOARD, AND, IF APPRO-

PRIATE, MINING UNION REPRESENTATIVES. AT ABERDEEN AND PETERHEAD HIS PRIMARY INTEREST IS THE ONSHORE IMPACT OF NORTH SEA OIL OPERATIONS, FROM TECHNICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND SOCIAL VIEWPOINTS. AT MILFORD HAVEN HE WOULD LIKE TO INSPECT A SUPERTANKER AND PORT OPERATIONS.

4. IF NECESSARY, INTERIOR DEPARTMENT CAN ASSIST WITH COAL MINE ARRANGEMENTS, THROUGH CONTACTS AT UK COAL BOARD RESULTING FROM 1974 DOI/UK COAL BOARD AGREEMENT, AND WITH UNION REPRESENTATIVES. INTERIOR UNDERSTANDS OTHER ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT BE ASSISTED BY THAMES WATER AUTHORITY. HOWEVER, INTERIOR DEFERS TO EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY SHOULD COMMENT ON FEASIBILITY OF APPOINTMENTS AND VISITS DESIRED BY UNDER SECRETARY JOSEPH AND BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE128334
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780213-0920
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780537/aaaabepi.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ORIGIN INT
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2625589
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF INTERIOR UNDER SECRETARY JAMES JOSEPH
TAGS: OVIP, UK, US, (JOSEPH, JAMES)
To: LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/43db8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014